

Capsule Summary
SM-402
Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
Cremona vicinity
Private

Circa 1875 - 1890

The Morgan Brothers Tobacco barn is significant as one of St. Mary's County's distinctive "bonnet" roof tobacco barns. Built of hewn and circular sawn lumber and wire nails, this structure appears to date to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. While most of the barn's original material remains in place, it is no longer used for tobacco curing and has begun to deteriorate due to neglect.

William Douglas Morgan purchased the property on which this barn stands in the early twentieth century. According to Morgan's son, an old farmhouse connected with the barn once stood nearby at the mouth of Persimmon Creek.

SM-402, Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Agricultural/Industrial Transition 1815-1870.
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme: Agriculture

Resource Type

Category: Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Tobacco barn

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM- 402

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn

2. Location

street & number Morgan Brothers Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Cremona ☒ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Archie Morgan

street & number 985 Parlett-Morgan Rd telephone no.:

city, town Mechanicsville state and zip code Md. 20659

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk of Court liber MRB 419

street & number St. Mary's County Courthouse folio 40

city, town Leonardtown state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM - 402

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn is located at the end of a dirt road off of the unpaved Morgan Brothers Road on the east side of Route 6 near Cremona. The barn is surrounded by tobacco fields. Although part of an old crop of tobacco still hangs in the barn, it is no longer used for the curing of tobacco. It is unclear where the principal farm complex connected with this old barn was located. Three twentieth century tobacco barns and a stripping shed are located at the junction of Route 6 and the Morgan Brothers Road.

The Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn appears to date to the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century based on the use of circular sawn lumber and wire nails throughout the structure. The barn is in fair condition and is overgrown with brush. It stands alone on a flat plain near the mouth of Persimmon Creek. The rectangular main block of the Morgan Brothers Barn is oriented on an east/west axis, parallel to the path of the creek which empties into the Patuxent River.

The Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn measures 32'6" in length by 16'3" in width with original 16' sheds on all four elevations. The roof is covered with raised seam metal sheeting and the barn's exterior walls are sheathed with a layer of circular sawn vertical board siding.

The rectangular main block of the barn has a steeply pitched gable roof surrounded by sheds on all four sides. The roof of the barn has a "witches hat" or "bonnet" form. The organizational plan of the barn is an eight foot bay system with four foot rooms. Six principal openings provide access to the barn. These openings create a cross-axial plan.

The structural system of the barn consists of continuous ground sills. These sills are hewn and joined with mortise and tenon joints reinforced with wooden pegs. The framing system consists of hewn posts on eight foot centers which are mortise and tenoned into the ground sills. The corner posts are reinforced with down braces which have been circular sawn from hewn stocks. These braces are mortise and tenoned into the ground sills and corner posts. The sheds are organized on the same bay system as the barn's main block and are supported by hewn posts set into the ground. The principal posts of both the barn's main block and its sheds support top plates and regularly spaced tie beams that conform to the four foot room system.

The roof framing of both the main block and the sheds consists of a common rafter roof on four-foot centers supported by a flat false plate. The rafters are circular

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-402

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates unknown **Builder/Architect** unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Morgan Brothers Tobacco barn is significant as one of St. Mary's County's distinctive "bonnet" roof tobacco barns. Built of hewn and circular sawn lumber and wire nails, this structure appears to date to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. While most of the barn's original material remains in place, it is no longer used for tobacco curing and has begun to deteriorate due to neglect.

William Douglas Morgan purchased the property on which this barn stands in the early twentieth century. According to Morgan's son, an old farmhouse connected with the barn once stood nearby at the mouth of Persimmon Creek. Nothing more is known about the history of the property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM - 402

Morgan, Francils Osbourne. Personal interview. January 1994

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acresQuadrangle name MechanicsvilleQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached. (Parcel F on plat.)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County DPZdate January 1993

street & number

telephone 301- 462- 4775city or town Leonardtownstate Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514 2400

SM-402, Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

sawn. Collars have been added to each rafter in the main block in order to create additional space for the hanging of tobacco.

The structural system used to hang tobacco consists of rails mortised and tenoned to the principal posts of the barn's main block and its sheds. These horizontal rails act as siding nailers on the shed walls. The barn has no intermediate tier pole supports. At each tier pole level, a tier pole extends horizontally in a transverse row across the barn's interior space and rests on the horizontal tier pole supports.

The sheds of the barn are sheathed with circular sawn, random width 1" vertical board siding. Although the eastern eave of the barn's gable roof is sheathed with weatherboard siding, there is no evidence on the posts of the barn's main block to suggest that this central block was ever sheathed with siding.

Two sets of double doors are located on each of the barn's two longitudinal elevations. These doors consist of plain vertical boards with horizontal and diagonal battens. They open outward on wrought metal strap hinges and manufactured barn hinges. These elevations are also pierced by louvered ventilators. Each of the barn's two gable end elevations are pierced by a single door. These doors consist of plain vertical boards with horizontal battens attached with wrought metal strap hinges and manufactured barn hinges.

Alterations to the barn include the metal roof sheathing which covers the barn's original wood shingles. The exterior vertical board siding replaced an earlier layer of vertical board sheathing in the 1970s. Many of the horizontal tier pole supports have been replaced.

SM-402, Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Joseph Archie Morgan, Sr. and Margaret G. Morgan

FROM: Joseph Archie Morgan, Sr.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 419, folio 40.

DATE: June 18, 1988.

NOTES: Transfer of Parcel A, being 12.9718 acres, Parcel C, being 1.1251 acres, Parcel F, being 44.5301 acres, and a tract of woodland. All noted on plat CBG 6/92.

TO: Joseph Archie Morgan Sr.

FROM: William Hayden Morgan

RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Record, Estate 935.

DATE: July 7, 1967.

NOTES: William Hayden Morgan died intestate. At the time of his death, the following buildings stood on the property which he owned equally with his two surviving brothers: Main house (home of deceased) on 1 acre; home of Archie Morgan on 1 acre; home of Alfred Morgan on 1 acre. Also 2 tenant houses: 1.) Tippetts - 6 rooms, 14' by 42,' very old. 2.) Stucco and cement block, 24' by 24.' Tobacco Barns: 1.) very old barn in poor condition, 32' by 112.' 2.) New barn, 32' by 80.' 3.) Barn, 54' by 80.' 4.) Square barn, 40' by 40.' 5.) Barn, 36' by 80' with shed. 6.) Grey barn 7.) Old cattle barn, 20' by 44.' 8.) Old cattle barn, 36' by 70.' Also corn crib and two granaries.

TO: William Hayden Morgan, Alfred Morgan, Joseph Archie Morgan

FROM: Ida R. Morgan and Benjamin Morgan

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 11, folio 122.

DATE: May 16, 1938.

NOTES: Ida R. Morgan, widow of William Douglas Morgan, remarried Benjamin Morgan. Here, she conveys her 1/3 interest in the property devised to her by her deceased husband in 1937. 1.) 280 acres of "Town Neck," same as EBA 16/461. 2.) "Worthington Park" and part of "Parnassus" and "Punk Neck" and "Part Cartwright Farm" being 170 acres. All the same as JMM 10/208. 3.) 46 acres of which Louis Tabbs died possessed, same as JMM 7/473. 4.) "Part De La Brooke," "Meadowfield," "Worthington Park," "Punk Neck" which comprise one tract known as "De La Brook" being 311 1/2 acres. The same as JMM 9/24.

TO: William H. Morgan, Alfred Morgan, Archie Morgan, and Ida Morgan

FROM: William Douglas Morgan

RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Record, Liber ACM 1, folio 234.

DATE: November 23, 1937.

NOTES: Ida Morgan received 1/3 of property, both real and personal, and the three sons received 2/3 of property, both real and personal, to share equally.

SM-402, Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
10.1 Geographic Description

Verbal boundary description and justification

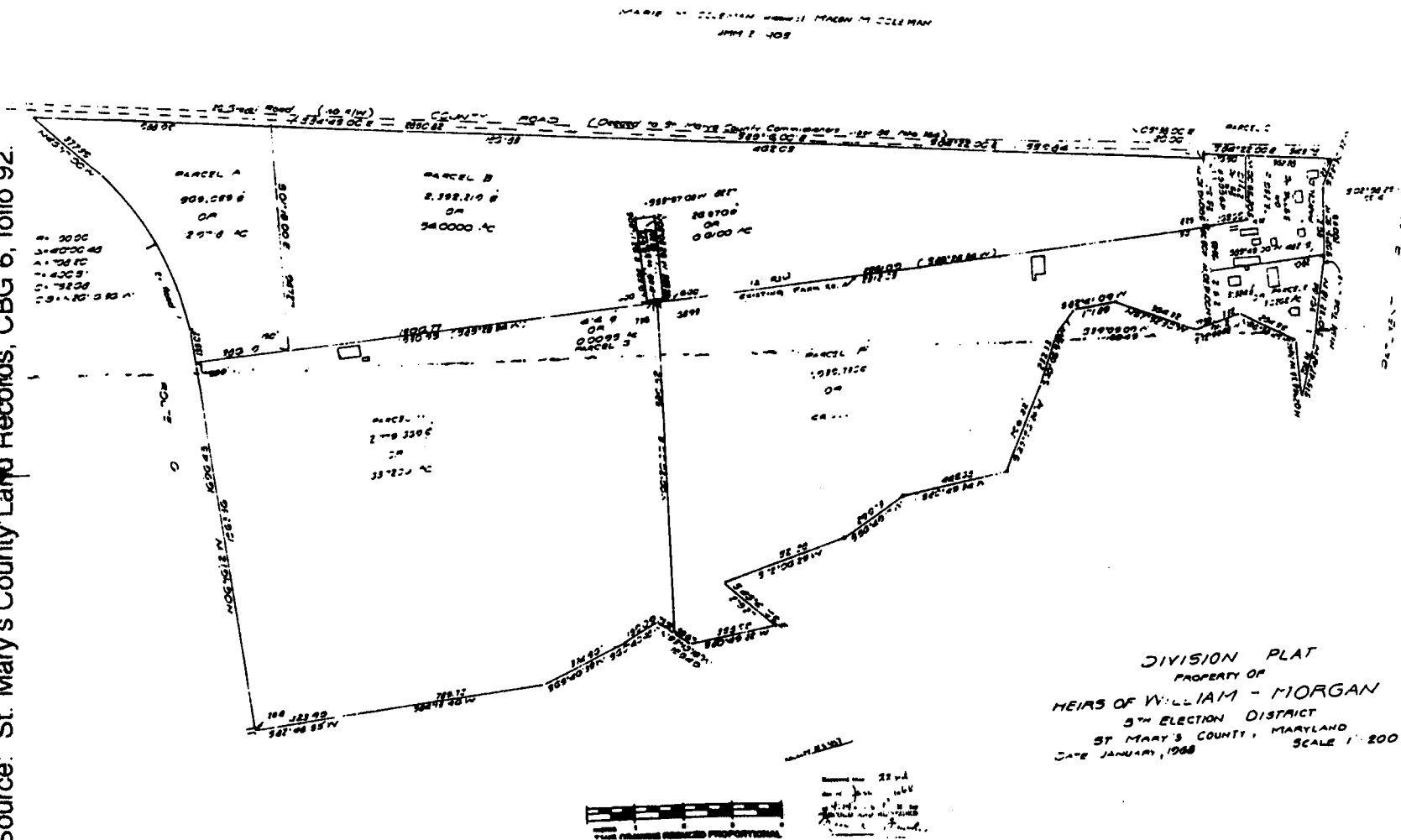
Source: St. Mary's County Land Records, MRB 419, folio 40.

3. "Parcel F" of the survey and plat aforesaid, to wit: BEGINNING at an iron pipe located South 00 deg 16' 30" West 281.24 feet, South 00 deg 18' 20" East 408.00 feet from the Southeast corner of a 40 foot County Road described in Liber 84, folio 384, said beginning point being on the north side of a Cove of Persimmon Creek, thence running with the North side of said Cove South 72 deg 52' 08" West 77.80 feet to an iron pipe; thence North 67 deg 52' 30" West 364.32 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 82 deg 41' 09" West 171.89 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 39 deg 05' 09" West 120.45 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 20 deg 06' 59" West

West 232.33 feet to an iron pipe; thence South 25 deg 56' 26" West 390.62 feet to the centerline of Persimmon Creek; thence with the center line of Persimmon Creek South 80 deg 45' 34" West 445.68 feet; thence South 56 deg 49' 17" West 299.73 feet; thence South 72 deg 06' 25" West 521.88 feet; thence South 46 deg 41' 09" East 275.27 feet; thence South 80 deg 49' 22" West 358.95 feet; thence North 53 deg 10' 15" West 80.67 feet; thence leaving said Creek and running through the entire tract of which the herein described parcel is a part North 00 deg 20' 00" East 1389.82 feet (passing over an iron pipe at 7.36 feet from the end of this course) to the centerline of a farm road (12 foot right of way); thence with the approximate centerline of said farm road North 85 deg 28' 34" East 2312.03 feet; thence leaving said farm road and running South 00 deg 18' 20" East 408.00 feet (passing over an iron pipe at 15.0 feet on this course) to the beginning, containing 44.5301 acres.

SM-402, Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn
St. Mary's County
10.2 Geographic Description

Source: St. Mary's County Land Records, CBG 6, folio 92.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

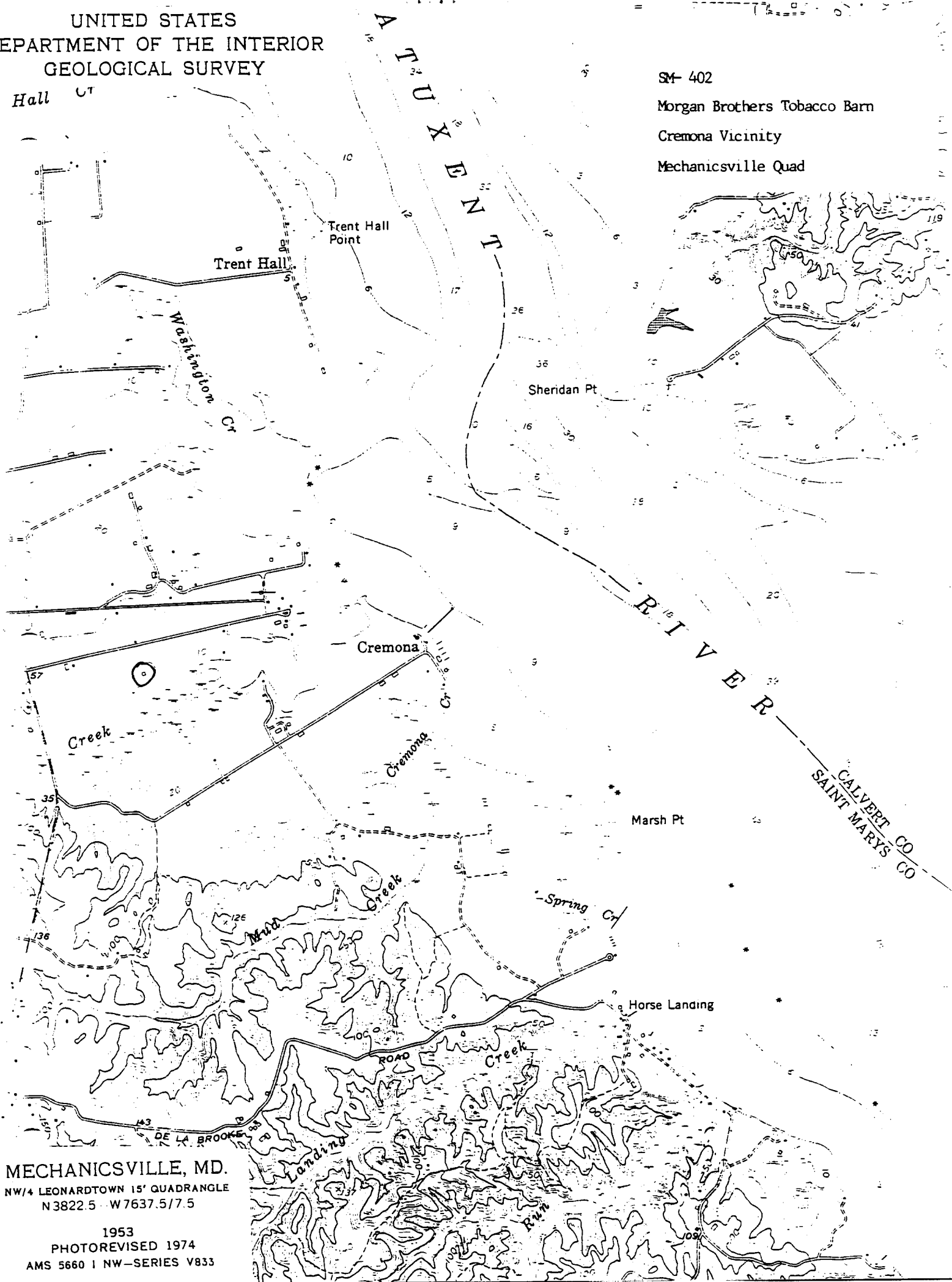
Hall CT

SM- 402

Morgan Brothers Tobacco Barn

Cremona Vicinity

Mechanicsville Quad



MECHANICSVILLE, MD.

NW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3822.5 W7637.5/7.5

1953

PHOTOREVISED 1974

AMS 5660 I NW-SERIES V833





